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HOUSE MEMORIAL 47

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

INTRODUCED BY

Harlan Vincent and William F. Burt and Greg Nibert and  
Brian G. Baca and Candy Spence Ezzell

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE ONE-HUNDRED-FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MESCALERO APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION.

WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Indian reservation was  
established by President Ulysses S. Grant on May 27, 1883, by  
executive order; and

WHEREAS, the original boundaries of the Mescalero Apache  
Indian reservation spanned as far north as Fort Stanton, and  
the current reservation is over seven hundred nineteen square  
miles, or four hundred sixty-three thousand acres; and

WHEREAS, sierra blanca, or white mountain, sacred to the  
Apache people, is located partially on the Mescalero Apache  
Indian reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Tribe represents the  
Mescalero, Lipan and Chiricahua Apache bands of Apache; and

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1           WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache people have called the lands  
2 of New Mexico their home since time immemorial; and

3           WHEREAS, the Lipan Apache were forced from their homelands  
4 in Texas and northern Mexico and held as prisoners of war until  
5 1905 when they joined the Mescalero Apache on the Mescalero  
6 Apache Indian reservation; and

7           WHEREAS, in 1913, the Chiricahua Apache were released as  
8 prisoners of war from the Fort Sill military reservation near  
9 Lawton, Oklahoma, and the vast majority of the Chiricahua  
10 Apache chose to make their homes on the Mescalero Apache Indian  
11 reservation where they were welcomed wholeheartedly by the  
12 Mescalero Apache; and

13           WHEREAS, since the establishment of the Mescalero Apache  
14 Indian reservation, the Mescalero Apache Tribe has been at the  
15 forefront of the fight for tribal sovereignty at the state and  
16 national levels and to preserve its culture, language and  
17 connection to its homelands throughout southern New Mexico; and

18           WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Indian reservation is  
19 mountainous and heavily wooded, and the Mescalero Apache Tribe  
20 is well-known for its sustainable forestry management, public  
21 campgrounds and big game hunting program; and

22           WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Tribe is proud to share the  
23 natural beauty of the Mescalero Apache Indian reservation with  
24 guests and patrons from New Mexico, Texas, Arizona and many  
25 other places at the tribe's resort and casino, the inn of the

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1 mountain gods; and

2 WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Tribe is proud to call the  
3 Mescalero Apache Indian reservation its home;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the one-  
6 hundred-fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the  
7 Mescalero Apache Indian reservation be recognized and  
8 celebrated by the house of representatives and throughout New  
9 Mexico; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to the Mescalero Apache tribal government tribal  
12 council.